



## BLM News Release ♦ BLM News Release

U.S. Department of the Interior ♦ Bureau of Land Management ♦ Oregon / Washington State Office  
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### **Secretary Norton Announces New Appointments to BLM Resource Advisory Councils**

Interior Secretary Gale Norton announced today the appointment of 15 new members to three citizen-based Resource Advisory Councils (RAC) that advise the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on public land issues.

“I am pleased to announce the appointment of these talented individuals to serve on the Oregon and Washington Resource Advisory Councils,” Norton said. “We are excited, because each RAC member brings a local perspective and diverse background that will assist the BLM in our mission of consultation, cooperation, and communication – all in the service of conservation.”

Composed of citizens appointed for their expertise in natural resource issues, the councils aim to improve the health and productivity of the public lands in the state. Each RAC provides counsel and advice to the Secretary of the Interior through BLM’s field managers concerning planning and management of the public lands within the RAC’s jurisdictional boundary.

“I look forward to the fresh perspectives the RAC members will bring to the BLM, as they help us carry out our multiple use mission,” said BLM Director Kathleen Clarke. “I am enthusiastic about what the RAC members and the BLM will be able to accomplish, with the addition of new members.”

“The issues before the RACs are complex and generate much public interest. These citizen advisors work hard together in the spirit of cooperation to resolve them,” said BLM State Elaine M. Brong. “We welcome the new and returning RAC members, and are confident they will continue the tradition.”

The current RAC appointments and the interest area they represent:

#### **Eastern Washington RAC**

Andrew Berg	Energy/Minerals
Maurice Williamson	Commercial Recreation/Off-Highway Vehicles
Mark Amara	Archaeological/Cultural
Lori Jordan	Transportation/Rights-of-Way

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**John Day-Snake RAC**

Terry Drever Gee	Energy/Minerals
Adriane Borgias	Transportation/Rights-of-Way
Berta Youtie	Environmental Organization
Tim Stearns	Public-at-Large
John Tanaka	Academician
Steven Courtney	Commercial Timber

**Southeast Oregon RAC**

Dick Leever	Transportation/Rights-of-Way
Tom Harris	Commercial Recreation/Off-Highway Vehicles
Mike Golden	Dispersed Recreation
John Bishop	Wild Horse & Burro
Mark Ferns	Energy/Minerals

The next Eastern Washington RAC meeting will be on November 20, 2002 at the Spokane BLM Office. The John Day-Snake RAC will meet in Pendleton, Oregon in early December, and the Southeast Oregon RAC will meet February 25-26, 2003 in the Ontario, Oregon area. More information will follow.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land—262 million surface acres—than any other Federal agency. Most of the country's BLM-managed public land is located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, which has a budget of \$1.8 billion and a workforce of 10,000 employees, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the Nation. The BLM's "multiple use" mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM accomplishes this by managing for such resources as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, and energy and mineral development that helps meet the nation's energy needs, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

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